

# **FREIGHT MOBILITY STRATEGIC INVESTMENT BOARD**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**July 26, 2013**

**Suquamish, WA**

Board members present: Mr. Dan Gatchet, Chair; Mr. Larry Paulson; Mr. Tom Trulove; Mr. Dave Gossett; Mr. Brian Ziegler; Mr. Pat Hulcey; Mr. Terry Finn; Mr. John Creighton; and Mr. Brock Nelson.

**WELCOME:** Chair Dan Gatchet opened the meeting.

**MINUTES:** Mr. Dave Gossett moved and Mr. Larry Paulson seconded the motion to adopt the May 24, 2013 minutes.

### ***MOTION CARRIED***

**FMSIB BUDGET:** Director Karen Schmidt reviewed the operating budget explaining that June 30<sup>th</sup> was the end of the biennium and although we do not have final numbers, FMSIB did come close to spending all of the budget; worked with WSDOT to resolve how money was put into the budget for Deputy Director Ashley Probart, making it necessary to separate any expenditures for the Deputy Director from the FMSIB budget; approximately \$11,300 was spent of the \$25,000 allocated by the Legislature for the Freight Advisory Committee (FAC) so it is reasonable to request additional money for future FAC meetings; reviewed budget history and how much tighter the budget has become over time; the capital projects completed, but not closed, are still included on the capital budget project list; reviewed the UP account; the Willis project has been moved to the deferred list and funds will now go to the 228<sup>th</sup> St grade crossing.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Director Schmidt discussed the FAC meetings focus has been on trends and obstacles that would improve the movement of freight and also to get perspectives from other industries, such as, agriculture and manufacturing. FMSIB has continued to work with MPO/RTPO to obtain inventory for the first and last mile projects to be included in the state freight plan. The next FAC meeting is scheduled for September 9<sup>th</sup> in Tacoma.

Director Schmidt gave an overview of the first National Freight Advisory Committee (NFAC) meeting. An invitation was extended to hold an NFAC meeting in Washington State.

The Director gave an update on the ARGO Project. UP is moving forward, but slowly; need to get supplemental signed, the right of way permit done, then advance money for electronic gate.

The Director explained that the Kent Project, 228<sup>th</sup> and 212<sup>th</sup>, will need to be staggered and completion date delayed.

Director Schmidt stated some projects were anticipating spending money, but were unable to since those are FMSIB funds and they come back into the control of FMSIB to be re-appropriated. However, Strander had \$2.5 million in a separate appropriation that ended on June 30, 2013, and the project is still

under construction. FMSIB needs to make a request that the \$2.5 million be in the 2014 supplemental budget with a proviso that the project could not have been complete by June 30, 2013.

Director Schmidt and Deputy Director Ashley Probart gave an overview of meeting with WSDOT and federal highway administration personnel regarding the Freight Plan and how to include the first/last mile inventory.

Director Schmidt shared that two dedications took place: 70<sup>th</sup> & Valley had a dedication and the M Street dedication which was completed on time and on or below budget.

Deputy Director Probart gave an overview of the special session: The House Transportation Revenue Package had zero dollars dedicated to FMSIB. During special session, Senator King did briefing of what it could look like with trucking weight fee going to FMSIB.

### **BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS:**

Chair Dan Gatchet discussed his and other members/staff attendance at the M Street dedication.

Mr. Pat Hulcey gave an overview of the grand opening of 70<sup>th</sup> & Valley being under budget and on time.

Mr. Terry Finn reported on Seattle Transportation Committee activities. The City of Seattle is planning on doing a freight plan; the Seattle Mayor commissioned a study on the economic effects of coal trains passing through waterfront businesses and Mr. Finn worked with the consultants on the issue; and there has been a call for closing Occidental Avenue because the new NBA arena would straddle it.

John Creighton reported on Moody's credit rating for the port. The port was cited for needing to renew airline agreement, and a new agreement should be signed next month. The report also noted that the port had a proactive commission and staff.

### **FREIGHT ADVISORY COMMITTEE-NATIONAL & STATE STAFFING**

Chair Dan Gatchet reviewed the cost of running and attending both NFAC/FAC meetings. All costs are currently coming from FMSIB budget, but a legislative request is needed for additional funds to cover the cost.

### **PROJECT UPDATES:**

Director Schmidt gave a PowerPoint presentation of the status of projects statewide. The Director also addressed the need for a motion to allow FMSIB to request the \$2.5 million to be reinstated for Strander Project.

## **2014 LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Mr. Paulson reviewed the need for FMSIB to do a supplemental budget request to cover the cost of salaries, office relocation, Freight Advisory Committee and the National Freight Advisory Committee. Mr. Paulson also recommended need to request a supplemental for 2.5 million to be reinstated for the Strander project in Renton. It was also recommended that FMSIB work with the Legislature to have additional weight fees dedicated for FMSIB use. Mr. Paulson requested FMSIB move forward on his recommendations.

Mr. Larry Paulson moved and Mr. Ziegler seconded the legislative recommendations.

***MOTION CARRIED***

## **CALL FOR PROJECTS:**

Mr. Zeigler moved to have a Call for Projects February 2014 and Mr. Gossett seconded the motion.

***MOTION CARRIED***

## **2014 MEETING SCHEDULE:**

Chair Gatchet proposed the following 2014 meeting dates: January 24-Olympia, March 21-Kent, May 30-Vancouver, July 17-18 – Suquamish, September 19 – Yakima, November 21 – Everett.

Mr. Ziegler made motion to accept and establish meeting dates and Mr. Hulcey seconded it.

***MOTION CARRIED***

## **PORT OF SEATTLE UPDATE:**

Claire Gallaher gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Pacific Northwest trade flows and competitive threats.

## **FUTURE MEETING**

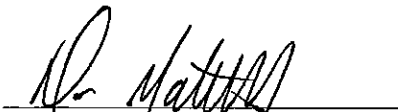
Chair Gatchet proposed the original meeting set for September 20, 2013, be moved to October 18<sup>th</sup> in Walla Walla.

Mr. Ziegler moved and Larry seconded.

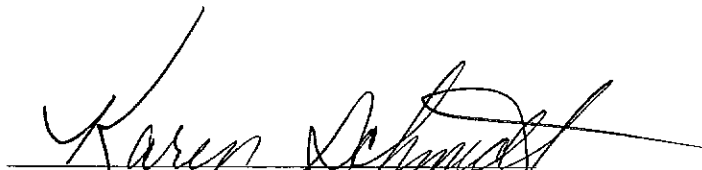
***MOTION CARRIED***

Chair Gatchet adjourned the meeting at 1:25 p.m.

***MEETING ADJOURNED***



Dan Gatchet  
Chair



Attest: Karen Schmidt  
Executive Director